

NSC BRIEFING

27 August 1955

NEHRU STATEMENT

- I. On 22 August, India's Prime Minister made unusually strong attack on Communism in statement appearing in Congress Party's official Economic Review.
 - A. Condemned Communism's "suppression of individual freedom."
 - B. Said "its unfortunate association with violence encourages a certain evil tendency in human beings."
 - C. "Communism has definitely allied itself to an approach of violence...its thought is violent and it does not seek to change by persuasion or peaceful, democratic pressures, but by coercion and indeed destruction and extermination."
 - D. Because it depends on violence, "the idea which it placed before the world became a tainted one."
 - E. Communism "fails partly because of its rigidity but even more so because it ignores certain essential needs of human nature."
- II. Nehru's statements apparently reflect continuing reassessment foreign policy stimulated by:
 - A. His "horror and frustration" at Nagy's execution.

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C. Recent Sino-Soviet attack on Tito and withdrawal Soviet aid from Yugoslavia.

D. Short life of "hundred flowers" experiment in Communist China.

III. Nehru statements do not mean abandonment of policy of "non-alignment."

A. Probably do reflect, however, disillusionment with sincerity of post-Stalin Soviet campaign of peacefulness and liberalization on which Nehru had begun to pin hopes for world peace.

B. Probably also reflects Nehru's recognition of more constant position of West.

C. Should lead Nehru to seek to moderate latest Sino-Soviet "hard line" and to display more sympathy with Western caution in dealing with Bloc.

IV. Nehru may also have been partly motivated by consideration of western response in yielding to pressure for publication these notes

A. Five creditor nations (US, UK, Canada, W. Germany, Japan) now meeting in Washington to consider ways helping India meet foreign exchange demands of Second Five-Year Plan.

Approved For Release 2004/03/17 : CIA-RDP79R00890A001000040031-8

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